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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Komadina DATE TYPED 2/14/05 HB _____

SHORT TITLE Study Boating Safety Education Programs SB SJM 15/aSPAC

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SPAC Amendment

The Senate Public Affairs Committee amendment to senate Joint Memorial 15 calls for the New Mexico State Parks Division (SPD) to work in conjunction with stakeholders while conducting the study called for in the memorial.

Synopsis of Original Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 15 calls for a study by the New Mexico State Parks Division (SPD) of ways to expand and improve boating education programs in New Mexico.

Significant Issues

State Parks Division (SPD) reports visitor safety, including boating safety, is a high priority due to the potential for accidents, injuries, and death. In addition, federal funds that come to SPD from the U.S. Coast Guard are tied to the effectiveness in delivering boating and boating safety programs. Nineteen of the 32 state parks have lakes as their principal feature and SPD has primary authority for enforcing boating laws on New Mexico waters state-wide.

In addition, SPD enforcement and recreational boating education programs with K-12 school children and adults contribute to the low numbers of accidents and injuries. Where nationally over one hundred children died in boating related accidents last year, New Mexico continues a long-term trend of zero fatalities in that vulnerable age group. Many members of the public who take the SPD adult New Mexico Boating Basics Course, however, consistently ask why the course is not mandatory.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Boating safety—preventing accidents and injuries on New Mexico waters—is a performance measure tracked by SPD

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The study called for in the SJM 15 would require staff time and some direct expense, a portion of which would be covered by the Recreational Boating Safety Program.

PA/sb